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SOURCE

Faclia.

DECREE ON DEPORTATION FROM BUCHAREST

/Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources./

A recent restricted issue of the <u>Buletinul Oficial</u> (Official Bulletin) published a "Decree to Relieve the Congestion of <u>Bucharest."(1)</u> This special decree, issued secretly to restricted government authorities, will affect over one fifth of the population of <u>Bucharest</u>, namely 200,000 persons.(2)

In effect, the decree allows for the compulsory deportation of a large part of the Bucharest population, from the capital to the barren countryside of the Baragan plains. The law specifically designates the classes of individuals who will be forced to depart. These are: families of men who at any time were active in political parties other than the Communist Party; landowners, whose properties were expropriated; families of former purged from the Rumanian Army; families of pensioners or of those not members of the labor force; families having relatives living in any of the Western countries.(1)

The official reasons given for this move were to provide more space for the working population and to ease the supply and distribution of city facilities and supplies. Persons who must leave the city are given from 12 to 48 hours in which to arrange their personal affairs and to prepare for departure. No one person may take over 20 kilograms of personal belongings with him.(2)

Deportees are kept for an indefinite period of time in the barracks on the outskirts of the capital. Thereafter, they are sent to unknown locations, believed to be on the Danube plains.

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The principal beneficiaries of this large-scale evacuation will be the civilian employees and members of the Soviet occupation forces and the members of the Communist Party. The actual working population, for whose benefit this entire evacuation was allegedly made, is expected to be pushed even farther out on the outskirts of the city.(2)

SOURCES

- 1. London, Faclia, 1 Apr 52
- 2. Tbid., 1 May 52

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